Tourist traffic to India

418. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase or decrease in the tourist traffic from U.S.A., U.K., West Asian and South East Asian countries duirng the year 1986-87 in the first half yearly of the current financial year;

(b) what are the reasons for the decline if any in the number of tourists from these countries; and

(c) what steps Government are contemplating to increase the flow of tourists from these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A comparative statement showing tourist traffic from U.S.A., U.K., West Asian and South East Asian countries during 1985, 1986 and January-June, 1986 and 1987 is given below:

Country	1985	1986	% Change	1986 (Jan-June)	1987 (Jan-June)	% Change
U.S.A.	95,920	125,364	30.7	51,954	64,186	23.5
U.K.	119,544	160,685	34 4	73,194	74,536	1.8
West Asian Countries	90,820	115,696	27.4	54,666	54,285	0.7
South East Asian Countries	54,663	67,816	24 1	31,505	35,820	13.7

(b) The marginal decline in tourist traffic from West Asian Countries during January—June, 1987 was on account of political and economic disturbances in the region.

(c) Government has taken-up many promotional campaigns and advertisements for increasing the flow of tourists from these countries. These include consumer advertising through television and radio, organisation of promotional seminars, inviting travel writers, photographers, etc., on familiarisation tours and special product advertising.

Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

419. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number and capacity of telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, exchange-wise and district-wise;

(b) total number of telephone connections sanctioned for the period from January, 1986 to October, 1987;

(c) the number of persons on the waiting list, district-wise;

(d) the number of electronic exchanges till June, 1987; and

(e) by when all the telephone exchanges of Uttar Pradesh will be connected with electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Total number of exchanges—1014 and equipped capacity is 258779 as on 31-3-87. District-wise and exchange-wise list will be submitted early.

(b) During January, 1986—September 1987, number of telephone connections given are 18471. Information about the sanctioned telephones shall be submitted early.

(c) Total waiting list as on 31-3-1987 is 47539 lines. District-wise waiting list shall be submitted early.

(d) 6.

(e) Uttar Pradesh had till June 1987, six electronic exchanges and another 13 are expected to be added by the end of 7th Plan. The conversion of all the telephone exchanges into electronic exchanges will depend upon the availability of equipment and resources.

Computerised Railway Information System

420. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern Railway propose to instal a computer-operated centralised traffic control and passenger information system in Delhi to facilitate smooth train operation and provision of fast and accurate information to the public;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken in that direction so far;

(d) whether similar systems are proposed to be installed at other important railway stations also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the public will be benefited by it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project would provide microprocessor based train information system and remote control signalling over 20 railway stations located at Delhi Area. Visual Display Unit (VDU) terminals and key boards would be provided in the Central Enqiry Office at New Delhi for displaying the position of all trains to and from the capital for furnishing this information to the rail users. The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 20 Crores out of which Rs. 8 Crores approximately would be the foreign exchange content.

(c) Letter of acceptance for this work has been placed on M/s. GEC General Signal Limited, U.K. Survey and design work has been started.

(d) and (e) In the long range planning for next 15 years, it is envisaged that similar systems will be progressively adopted for other metropolitan cities and at about 20 centres on Delhi-Bombay-Calcutta as well as Delhi-Madras routes. With the introduction of these facilities, train operation would be made smooth and expeditious. Fast and accurate information to the public regarding train arrival and departure timings of all passenger-carrying trains would also be available.

Railway Projects

421. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to prune some railway projects approved earlier and included in the current annual plan; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The 1987-1988 annual plan for Railways has been pruned down from Rs. 3400 crore to Rs. 3300 crore.

(b) This is in view of the need for additional resources for drought relief.

Termination of the Services in the CRIY

422. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons whose services in the Central Research Institute for Yoga have been terminated during 1986 and 1987,